

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 157091

FOR SIMONS FROM ANDREWS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN, RO

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL/INFORMAL

1. TRIFA CASE. JUSTICE DEPARTMENT TRIAL ATTORNEY
HANDLING TRIFA CASE, EUGENE M. THIROLF, HAS ASKED FOR
FURTHER HELP IN ASSEMBLING EVIDENCE AND WITNESSES. HE
HAS PUT THREE QUESTIONS TO US: FIRST: DO WE HAVE ANY
OBJECTION IF DAVID STRATMAN, PH.D., A HISTORIAN OF
ROMANIAN ORIGIN WHO IS DOING INDEPENDENT RESEARCH ON THE
PERIOD IN WHICH JUSTICE IS INTERESTED WITH REGARD TO
TRIFA, SEEKS UNOFFICIALLY TO OBTAIN MATERIAL THAT WOULD
BE HELPFUL TO JUSTICE? JUSTICE BELIEVES, AND WE ARE
INCLINED TO AGREE, THAT STRATMAN WOULD BE SOMEWHAT MORE
LIKELY TO OBTAIN MATERIAL THAT IS USEFUL IF HE DOES NOT
RPT NOT SEEK OFFICIAL GOR COOPERATION IN ASSEMBLING
MATERIALS ON TRIFA. MAJOR RISK WE SEE, WHICH WE HAVE
ALREADY CONVEYED TO JUSTICE, IS THAT STRATMAN MIGHT
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PREJUDICE HIS STANDING WITH GOR IF THEY LEARN HIS ACTUAL
PURPOSE IS SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT FROM HIS STATED ACADEMIC
ONE. THIS WOULD BE EVEN MORE LIKELY IF HE IN FACT
TURNS UP MATERIALS THAT BECOME PART OF PUBLIC RECORD IN
TRIFA CASE. ON BALANCE, WE BELIEVE WE CAN LEAVE THAT
DECISION TO STRATMAN, WHO HAS SAID HE DOES NOT THINK THIS
IS A PROBLEM FOR HIM. GIVEN THE LACK OF OTHER PROGRESS

IN GETTING GOR COOPERATION, WE ARE INCLINED TO GIVE

JUSTICE OUR OK. PLEASE GIVE US YOUR VIEWS QUICKLY;
STRATMAN WOULD LIKE TO GO TO BUCHAREST IN JULY. SECOND:
IN VIEW OF NEGATIVE GOR RESPONSE TO YOUR JANUARY 30
DEMARCHE (BUCHAREST 691 AND STATE 16284), DO YOU SEE
ANY WAY IN WHICH WE CAN OBTAIN GOR COOPERATION IN
FACILITATING INVESTIGATIVE VISIT BY TRIAL ATTORNEY
TO ROMANIA? JUSTICE STILL FEELS STRONG NEED FOR
ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE. THIRD: IN CONNECTION WITH SECOND
QUESTION, JUSTICE WANTS GOR COOPERATION IN LOCATING
FOUR WITNESSES IDENTIFIED IN COURT DECISION WHICH GOR
GAVE US: ANGHEL MIHAI, BIRIS, PROF. CHIRNOAGA,
AND PANAITESCU. IF THEY ARE STILL ALIVE, JUSTICE WANTS
TO INTERVIEW THEM.

2. REPRESENTATION LIST (BUCHAREST 4046). AS YOU KNOW,
WE RELY BASICALLY ON EMBASSY'S JUDGMENT IN PREPARING
REP LIST, AND WE HAVE NO OBJECTION TO YOUR REMOVING
FROM IT PERSONS WHOSE FILES HAVE SHOWN NO ACTIVITY FOR
OVER A YEAR. WITH REGARD TO YOUR SUGGESTION, HOWEVER,
THAT PERSONS WHOSE EMIGRATION FROM ROMANIA WOULD SPLIT A
NUCLEAR FAMILY SHOULD BE REMOVED FROM THE REPRESENTATION
LIST (PARA 6), WE HAVE SOME DOUBTS. WE DO NOT LIKE THE
IDEA OF INCREASING THE DIFFERENT VETOES AVAILABLE TO
THE GOR, IN ADDITION TO THE REQUIREMENT FOR PARENTAL
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CONSENT TO MARRIAGE BETWEEN TWO ADULTS. ALSO, ALTHOUGH
THE FINAL ACT DOES FOCUS ON FAMILY REUNIFICATION, OUR
INTEREST IN ROMANIAN EMIGRATION GOES BEYOND THAT. BUT
WE LEAVE THE FINAL DECISION TO YOU ON THIS AS WELL AS
PARA 7. YOU MAY WANT TO TAKE A CASE-BY-CASE APPROACH.

3. TRADE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE PROPOSAL. COMMERCE HAS
INFORMALLY ADVISED US THAT A PROPOSAL WHICH BEWT PUT
FORWARD FOR COMMERCE'S FY 1980 BUDGET "WISH LIST" FOR
THE ESTABLISHMENT OF TRADE DEVELOPMENT OFFICES IN
BUCHAREST, BUDAPEST, AND PEKING HAS SURVIVED THE FIRST
COMMERCE-WIDE CUT. WHILE THE PROPOSAL IS STILL FAR
SHORT OF RECEIVING FINAL COMMERCE APPROVAL, OUR FRIENDS
IN COMMERCE FELT THEY SHOULD ALERT US TO IT TO GET OUR
INITIAL INFORMAL VIEWS AND THOSE OF THE POSTS CONCERNED.
WHAT BEWT HAS IN MIND ARE MODEST OPERATIONS ALONG THE
LINES OF THE PRESENT WARSAW TRADE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE.
THEY PROPOSED FUNDS (WE DON'T KNOW THE AMOUNT) FOR WHAT
THEY FIGURED WOULD COVER OPENING OFFICES PHYSICALLY
SEPARATE FROM THE CHANCERIES AND A TOTAL OF SIX EMPLOYEES
(AMERICANS AND LOCAL STAFF) FOR ALL THREE OFFICES. WE
LIKE THE IDEA IN PRINCIPLE AND WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING

YOUR VIEWS VIA THIS CHANNEL. INCIDENTALLY, WHILE
COMMERCE IS NOT WEDDED TO THE CONCEPT OF THE TDO'S BEING

LOCATED AWAY FROM THE CHANCERIES, THEY BELIEVE THIS IS
PREFERABLE, ALTHOUGH RECOGNIZING IT WOULD BE MUCH MORE
COSTLY.

4. ECONOMIC COUNCIL. NSC (KING) HAS PROMISED TO GET OUR
SUGGESTED MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT FOR THE COUNCIL
OUT TO YOU BY END OF WEEK. ON EMBASSY BRIEFING, JAY
IS ASKING HASFURTHER TO TELEX YOU ASAP. WE UNDERSTAND
THAT GOR HAS MOVED JUNE 26 LUNCH TO 1:30-3:00. HOPE
THIS DOESN'T ELIMINATE AFTERNOON PROGRAM FOR VEST IN
BUCHAREST THAT DAY.

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5. TUDOR CLAIM. DURING THE ROMANIAN MFN EXTENTION
HEARINGS ON JUNE 15, MERRIGAN PRIVATELY TOLD SAM
FROMOWITZ THAT SENATOR LONG HAD BRIEFLY RAISED TUDOR
CLAIM WITH PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU DURING LATTER'S VISIT
TO U.S. ACCORDING TO MERRIGAN, CEAUSESCU INDICATED
AWARENESS OF CASE AND RESPONDED BLITHELY TO LONG THAT
ROMANIA WOULD SOON SETTLE THE CLAIM. GIVEN MERRIGAN'S
PENCHANT FOR THROWING NAMES AROUND, WE PASS THIS TIDBIT
TO YOU WITH MORE THAN THE USUAL CAVEATS ABOUT SECOND-
HAND INFORMATION. VANIK, BY THE WAY, WOULD VERY MUCH
LIKE TO BE RID OF THE TUDOR CLAIM ISSUE -- AND OF
RIPOSANU AND MERRIGAN.

6. SENATE HEARINGS. DURING WORK-UP OF HUNGARIAN TRADE
AGREEMENT IN SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE TODAY, STAFF
INDICATED THAT INTERNATIONAL TRADE SUB-COMMITTEE OF SFC
WOULD HOLD HEARINGS JULY 12 ON BOTH ROMANIAN AND
HUNGARIAN WAIVERS UNDER SECTION 402.

7. ADL VISIT (BUCHAREST 3654 AND STATE 128221). DAVID
BRODY HAS ASKED WHETHER EMBASSY RECEPTION COULD BE SET
FOR ABOUT 5:30 OR 6:00 P.M. ON EITHER JULY 1 OR 2.
BRODY WILL CALL EMBASSY ON ARRIVAL BUCHAREST ON JUNE 30,
BUT IF YOU WANT US TO PASS DEFINITE DATE TO HIM LET US
KNOW. VANCE

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